



SR0270

LRB100 11619 MST 22346 r

1 SENATE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The month of April is designated nationally and  
3 internationally as Autism Awareness Month; and

4 WHEREAS, Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASDs) affect a growing  
5 number of Illinois residents and their families; and

6 WHEREAS, According to the Centers for Disease Control and  
7 Prevention, the prevalence of ASDs has increased from one in  
8 150 children as of 2002, to one in 68 children today; based on  
9 these figures, more than 40,000 school-age children in Illinois  
10 have an ASD; and

11 WHEREAS, In 2003, to improve the State's response to  
12 autism, Illinois passed Public Act 93-395, which created The  
13 Autism Program of Illinois (TAP); and

14 WHEREAS, TAP brings together universities and nonprofit  
15 organizations from across Illinois to implement a system of  
16 care for those with ASD; and

17 WHEREAS, Over the past 14 years, TAP has developed into the  
18 largest statewide autism resource and service network in the  
19 nation; and

1           WHEREAS, TAP currently operates centers or other programs  
2 in partnership with the University of Illinois Chicago,  
3 Illinois State University, Southern Illinois University,  
4 Easter Seals Metropolitan Chicago-Rockford Service Center,  
5 Easter Seals Central Illinois, RCADD - Chicago, Trinity  
6 Services, Kreider Services, the CTF Illinois, Little Friends  
7 Inc., Have Dreams, and the Hope Institute for Children and  
8 Families; and

9           WHEREAS, TAP has provided direct services to more than  
10 8,500 Illinois families and trained more than 88,000 family  
11 members, educators, health care providers, day care providers,  
12 and first responders; and

13           WHEREAS, The TAP service model has been validated by  
14 researchers at Baylor University with many major national  
15 organizations seeking partnership with TAP; and

16           WHEREAS, Despite TAP's many accomplishments, there remain  
17 unmet needs, and much work needs to be done in Illinois;  
18 therefore, be it

19           RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDREDTH GENERAL  
20 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we designate April 2,  
21 2017 as World Autism Awareness Day in the State of Illinois;  
22 and be it further

1           RESOLVED, That we congratulate the members of TAP and its  
2 many partners on the occasion of its 14th anniversary, and  
3 pledge our continuing support to Illinois families impacted by  
4 autism; and be it further

5           RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
6 presented to The Autism Program of Illinois.